

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1958

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Council Offices,
Budleigh Salterton.

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BUDLEIGH SALTERTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

Budleigh Salterton.

July, 1959.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1958, which report includes a section kindly supplied by the Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer.

It is to be noted that the estimated population of the district has fallen this year from 3,830 in 1957 to 3,820 in 1958.

Regarding other vital statistics, the live birth rate of 9.7 is practically the same as that for the previous year but is very much below that for England & Wales 16.4. I am pleased to record that there were no stillbirths. The standardised death rate of 10.8 was slightly lower than in 1957 (11.6) and is a little below that for the country as a whole (11.7).

Regarding the notifiable infectious diseases, of the 63 cases notified, 49 were Measles and 7 Whooping Cough.

I am pleased to report that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria or Tuberculosis notified during the year, the responses of the public to vaccination and inoculation against all these diseases having been excellent.

During the year "Shandford" - a voluntary home for residents was opened and I am grateful for the report on its progress, kindly contributed as an Appendix to this report by Councillor Mrs. P.M. MacMullen.

I should again like to thank all members of the Council and the staff for their help, co-operation and support given to me during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

L.G. ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F FMedical Officer of Health.

L.G. ANDERSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer

MR. A.E. PARRY, C.R.San.I., M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.R.A.,
A.I.I.C.E.I., A.I.W.E., M.I.P.H.E.

(MR. P.M. WALSH, L.F.S., C.R.S.H., succeeded
Mr. Parry on the 1st April, 1959.)



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1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	1,018
Resident Population (mid-year 1958) (as estimated by the Registrar General)	3,820
Rateable value as at the 1st April 1959	£81,165
Product of a penny rate (1st April 1959)	£ 325
Number of inhabited houses (1st April 1959)	1,471

2. VITAL STATISTICS(a) Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	20	13	33
Illegitimate	1	3	4
Total	21	16	37

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	9.7
Standardised birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	13.3
Live birth rate per 1,000 civilian population England and Wales.	16.4

(b) Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births England & Wales	21.6

(c) Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	38	37	75
Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			19.6
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated population			10.8
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population England & Wales			11.7
Death from maternal causes			Nil.

(d) Infant Mortality

(Deaths of infants under 1 year of age).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births 27.0
 Infant mortality per 1,000 live births England & Wales 22.5
 (lowest ever recorded in this country).

3. LIVE BIRTH RATE

During 1958, 21 male and 16 female, total of 37 infants were born, which is 1 less than last year. The standardised birth rate decreased from 13.6 in 1957 to 13.3 in 1958.

The following table shows the live birth rate during the last 10 years:-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Budleigh Salterton	11.4	13.5	10.6	10.8	10.0	8.6	8.5	9.6	9.9	9.7
Standardised	-	15.8	12.6	12.9	12.0	11.8	11.7	12.4	13.6	13.3
England & Wales	16.7	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE

Of the 37 infants born during 1958, 4 were illegitimate.

The illegitimate birth rate for the last 10 years is as follows:- (Rate per 1,000 total live births).

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
23.2	60.0	25.0	50.0	26.0	78.0	30.3	108.1	105.2	108.1

5. STILL BIRTHS

There were no stillbirths during the year.

6.

DEATHS(a) Causes of Death

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

	Males	Females	Total
Cancer			
Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm lungs and bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm breast	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm other sites	5	4	9
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Coronary disease, angina	5	6	11
Hypertension with heart disease (high blood pressure)	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	5	8	13
Diabetes	-	1	1
Other circulatory diseases	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	7	7	14
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	-	1
Influenza	2	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3	6
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	-	-	-
TOTAL	38	37	75

Of the whole population residing in the urban district, 75 died (38 males and 37 females), which represents a corrected death rate of 19.6 but which when allowance for age and sex distribution has been made represents a "Standardised" death rate of 10.8. This rate is lower than that of England and Wales as a whole (11.7).

The following table shows the "Corrected" and "Standardised" death rates for Budleigh Salterton urban district for the last 10 years:-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Corrected	21.4	19.2	20.8	17.2	18.5	22.5	19.1	18.1	21.1	19.6
Standardised	12.0	10.6	11.7	9.6	10.3	11.2	9.7	9.9	11.6	10.8
England & Wales	11.7	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7

As in the preceding year the most prevalent causes of death were diseases of the heart; 26 cases (34.7%), Cancer caused 12 deaths (16%) and vascular lesions of the nervous system (cerebral haemorrhage, thrombosis etc.,) caused 14 deaths (18.7%)

2 cases of accidental deaths were recorded: a man aged 78 years who died from a fracture of skull and other severe injuries due to falling from a cliff. No evidence as to cause of fall. A woman, aged 73 years died from fracture of neck of left femur. Death by misadventure.

(b) Age at death

The average age at death during 1958 was 75.9 years and is above that for the previous year. The following table shows the average age at death during the last 9 years:-

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Males	70.0	75.6	73.0	73.0	72.5	73.1	67.5	73.2	75.2
Females	74.0	74.7	74.4	77.3	77.6	77.9	74.4	72.9	76.6
Both Sexes	72.2	75.1	73.7	74.4	74.9	75.2	71.1	73.0	75.9
England & Wales		66.5	65.9	57.1	67.3	67.6	67.5	67.76	67.71
		71.2	70.9	72.3	72.4	73.1	72.9	73.3	73.29

* Expectation of Life On the basis of the death rates for the year 1957, the expectation of life of a boy at birth is 67.71 and of a girl 73.29. This compares with 67.75 and 73.3 respectively, on the basis of the 1956 death rates, and with 48.43 and 52.38 on the basis of the death rates for 1901-1910.

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 1 year	-	1	1	1.3
1 and under 2	-	-	-	-
2+	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-
10+	-	-	-	-
20+	-	-	-	-
30+	-	-	-	-
40+	-	-	-	-
50+	2	2	4	5.3
60+	7	5	12	16.0
70+	19	13	32	42.7
80+	8	15	23	30.7
90-100	2	1	3	4.0
All ages	38	37	75	

7. INFANT MORTALITY (Rate per 1,000 live births).

Budleigh Salterton	-	27.0
England & Wales	-	22.5

8. DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES - Nil

9. CANCER

During 1958, 12 cases of deaths from Cancer were recorded. The various parts of the body affected are shown in the following table:-

	Males	Females	Total
Stomach	-	-	-
Lungs and bronchus	2	-	2
Breast	-	-	-
Uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	4	9
TOTAL	7	5	12

The incidence of deaths from Cancer during the last 10 years is as follows:-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Males	7	5	6	5	4	4	8	6	6	7
Females	7	9	6	7	9	13	9	7	8	5
Total	14	14	12	12	13	17	17	13	14	12
Rate per 1,000 resident population	3.7	3.7	3.18	3.2	3.44	3.43	4.4	3.4	2.88	3.14

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES(a) Measles

There were 49 cases of Measles in 1958 compared with only 5 cases in 1957.

(b) Diphtheria

I am pleased to report that for the 12th consecutive year there has been no case of Diphtheria in the District.

The table below shows the incidence of the various notifiable infectious diseases for the year 1958:-

	No. of cases notified	Deaths
Measles	49	-
Whooping Cough	7	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-
Pneumonia	4	-
Polio-myelitis	-	-
Total	63	-

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases grouped according to age:-

	Under 1 yr.	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65+	total
Measles	3	3	6	5	7	23	2	-	-	-	-	-	49
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	1	7
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	4
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
All causes	4	3	6	5	8	28	4	-	1	-	1	3	63

The seasonal incidence of Measles in Budleigh Salterton and England & Wales for 1958 was as follows:-

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Budleigh Salterton	-	-	-	-	-	1	36	12	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	48	-	-	-	-
England & Wales	49,391			65,036			56,564			88,230		

Below is tabulated the incidence (numbers notified) of various infectious diseases during the last 10 years:-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Measles	131	7	16	13	177	6	5	95	5	49
Whooping Cough	25	19	26	1	41	8	11	42	14	7
Scarlet Fever	1	4	-	1	-	1	1	2	11	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	5	1	-	1	1	2	-	3	-
Pneumonia	-	10	7	1	-	4	24	10	3	4
Typhoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

11. TUBERCULOSIS

During 1958, no new cases of Tuberculosis were notified. 1 case (male) has been added to the Register, having been initially notified elsewhere and now residing in the Budleigh Salterton district.

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1								
1-								
5-								
15-								
25-								
35-								
45-								
55-								
65-								
All ages								
	Nil				Nil			

The number of cases still on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year as follows:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	15	14	29
Non-Pulmonary	5	13	18
Total	20	27	47

12. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT

The Health Services provided by the Local Health Authority (Devon County Council) under Part II and III of the Act as applicable to your district are briefly set out below:-

PART II(a) HOSPITAL FACILITIES(i) General

The urban district is well served by the Budleigh Salterton Cottage Hospital (Tel.No: Budleigh Salterton 2) where there is accommodation for:-

Male	8 beds
Female	8 beds
Private wards	3 beds
Nursery	2 beds and 1 cot.

In addition to the above, use is made of:-

1. Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East, Exeter.
(Tel: Exeter 72261) 322 beds including 5 cots for premature babies.
2. Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Buckerell Bore, Exeter.
(Tel: Exeter 54217), 115 beds. (Also 35 at the Angela Home Tipton St. John.
3. Exmouth Cottage Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth.
(Tel: Exmouth 4381) - 45 beds.
4. West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter.
(Tel: Exeter 73183) - 62 beds, including 2 private beds.

(ii) Maternity

1. Poltimore Nursing Home - 4 beds.
2. Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter - 10 beds.
3. Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital for complicated or difficult cases.

(iii) Isolation

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, (Tel: Exeter 67158) as in previous years.

I should like to record my sincere appreciation for the ready help and co-operation given at all times by Dr. Boyd the Resident Physician, and Staff of the hospital.

(iv) Smallpox

A smallpox hospital of 28 beds at Upton Pyne administered by the Regional hospital board is available in case of need. (Tel: Stoke Canon 207).

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a consultant, arrangements have been made to call upon:-

Tel.No

1. East Devon Dr. E.J.G. Wallace,
Health Centre,
Westham Road,
WEYMOUTH, Dorset. Weymouth 1513
(home) 1645 and 16
2. Cornwall & Devon to the River Exe

Dr. D.F. Johnstone,
Isolation Hospital,
PLYMOUTH. Plymouth 3358
(home) 64311 and 61437
3. Devon & Cornwall

Dr. W.A. Lister,
7, The Crescent,
PLYMOUTH. Plymouth 5701
Devonport 4
(home)

(b) LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter - their new address for the present being: C/o the University, Gandy Street, Exeter (Tel: Exeter 54959), under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

(c) VENEREAL DISEASE

Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre:-

<u>EXETER</u>	<u>MILES</u>	<u>FEMILES</u>
Royal Devon & Exeter	Mon. 7 - 8 p.m. Fri. 2 - 3 p.m.	Mon. 6 - 7 p.m. Fri. 3 - 4 p.m.

(d) AMBULANCE FACILITIES

As from the 5th July, 1948, the Local Health Authority became responsible for the ambulance services in the area, and at their request the Exmouth Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade agreed to act as their agents and continue the service commenced in 1936.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Elm Grove, Exmouth (Tel: Exmouth 2857).

In the district served, the ambulances have carried 2,088 patients in 1958 and have attended 128 street accidents and 45 home accidents. The total mileage covered during the year has been 27,808.

At the Beach First Aid Post at Exmouth, 736 cases were treated and at the Ambulance Headquarters 207 were treated.

PART III(e) CARE OF MOTHERS & YOUNG CHILDREN

A Health Visitor is assigned to this district: Mrs. T.M. Barry, 1, Rock Mansions, Budleigh Salterton (Tel: Budleigh Salterton 625). Dr. N.E.R. Archer of Lympstone is the Medical Officer who attends the Infant Welfare Centre.

The Centres are held at the Church Institute, Budleigh Salterton, on the first and third Wednesdays in each month from 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.

During 1958 the following attendances were made:-

Total No. of sessions held	Total No. of babies attending.	Total No. of toddlers attending.
23	377 (of which 37 were first attendances)	378 (of which 12 were first attendances).

(f) MATERNITY

There is one District Nurse Midwife in this district, Nurse Powlesland, Burnside, Halse Hill Lane, Budleigh Salterton, (Tel: Budleigh Salterton 274). Nurse Bolt of The Bungalow, Yettington, (Tel: Colaton Raleigh 256) acts as relief in the absence of Nurse Powlesland. Mrs. E. Kemp, of 16, Cliff Road, Budleigh Salterton, (Tel: Budleigh Salterton 483) also practises as an independent midwife.

(g) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest maternity unit, in this case the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Exeter where there are 5 cots available.

Report of the Surveyor and
Public Health Inspector.

13. WATER SUPPLY

(a) The total quantity of water pumped during the year 1958 was 65,645,300 which was 6,051,400 gallons less than in 1957. This reduction in the total consumption is no doubt due to the fact that the Sherbrook Reservoir has been re-lined and the loss therefrom has, therefore, been overcome.

(b) All domestic properties are connected to the main water supply.

During the year, 5 new properties were connected and 2 other properties divided into four making a total of 7 new water connections.

(c) Samples of raw and chlorinated water are submitted every week for bacteriological examination, and the results are highly satisfactory.

14. RODENT CONTROL

During the year 1,214 baits were laid on 65 premises resulting in 276 rats killed.

15. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During the year 5 new properties were connected to the main sewer, new drains being tested as necessary. All sewage is discharged into the sea between one hour after high water and one hour before low water, a man being employed specially to operate the tank sewer outlet valves day and night.

Sewage is also received from the St. Thomas Rural area at Knowle Village.

A joint scheme to sewer Kersbrook Valley in both the Urban area and parts of St. Thomas Rural District area has been prepared and will be carried out in the early part of 1959. The sewerage from this area will drain by gravity to the Southern end of the Valley and will then be pumped into the Council's main sewerage system.

16. HOUSE REFUSE

House refuse is collected once weekly.

Large hotels are dealt with twice weekly. Trade refuse is also collected and a special charge is made.

The controlled tip at South Road has been well maintained, a man being employed full-time for this purpose.

A small income is received from the sale of waste paper, rags and scrap metal.

17. HOUSING

During the year 5 new houses have been built, 1 house has been divided into 2 and another house has been divided into 2 flats - all by private enterprise.

The Council at present own a total of 238 dwellings.

These are maintained by direct labour. During the year a total of 392 defects were dealt with.

18. FOOD

(i) The number and type of food premises in the Urban District are as follows:-

Bakehouses	2
Butchers	5
Cafes, restaurants, etc.	9
Confectioners	4
Dairymen	3
Greengrocers, etc.	4
Grocers	11
Hotels & Guest Houses	15
Delicatessen	1
	<hr/>
	54

(ii) Number of food premises registered under (a) Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 -

Ice Cream	12
Manufactured foods	3

(b) the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - 1954 -

Dairies	3
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(iii) During the year visits were made to registered premises and where necessary advice given regarding cleanliness and other matters.

(iv) No special educational activities regarding Food hygiene have been carried out during this year.

(v) Condemned food is disposed of by burial at the Council's controlled tip, where a man is on duty during all working hours.

(vi) Miscellaneous quantities of food condemned during the year are as follows:-

63½ lbs. beef.
20 wild duck
29½ stone fish
660¾ lbs. tinned meat.
460 tins of other foods.

(vii) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947-52.

There are no premises in the Urban District where ice cream is manufactured.

All premises are retail establishments selling pre-packed ice cream obtained from one or other of five well known manufacturers whose factories are situated in other districts. Ice cream samples are taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Exeter for examination under the methylene blue keeping test.

(viii) Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

Visits were made to premises coming under the provisions of the above Regulations during the year and any necessary action taken regarding irregularities which were found.

19. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspection for purposes of provision as to Health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not includ- ed in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	10	20	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	20	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found - NIL.

20.

"SHANDFORD", Station Road, Budleigh Salterton

This voluntary home was opened to residents in November 1958, following about 18 months of intense activity by a Committee representing almost every organized body in the district. The capital cost of the project, estimated originally at £9,000 was raised later to £14,000, to include major alterations to the house chosen, installation of central heating and provision of working capital. Of this sum, almost £10,000 has been raised by donations, both private and collective, and by the allocation of generous sums from two local trusts, now wound up. The balance was obtained by mortgage from the Devon County Council.

The home is now managed by the Budleigh Salterton and District Housing Society Ltd., and has already shown itself to fill a great need. It has its full capacity of 15 residents, 11 in single and 4 in double rooms. Many have brought their own furniture and personal belongings, and those with particular disabilities have rooms on the ground floor. With the generous assistance of a highly qualified architect, all fittings have been adapted to the needs of the old, e.g. special baths, handrails, lighting and wireless points, toilet and laundry facilities. The house itself stands on a level position overlooking the Green, and easily accessible to bus and train services, shops and all amenities, so that the atmosphere of the home is not one of isolation from the life of the community. Two resident staff are employed, and the whole aim of the Management Committee has been to provide a kindly and comfortable "Home" in the true sense of the word. To ensure the care of all alike who need it, the County Council is assisting a number of residents to meet the weekly cost, which has been provisionally estimated for the first year at £5. 5. 0d.

Even in the short time under consideration, the improvement to health and morale of many of the residents has been striking and the generous efforts of all concerned in this project have been justified many times over. The problem of an aging population is one that affects Budleigh Salterton with particular force. May this be only a beginning in the solution of it.

MRS. P.M. MACMULLEN,

"Ailsa,"

Budleigh Salterton.

